

The White Admiral, *Limenitis camilla* L. (Lep.: Nymphalidae) still present near Bexley, north-west Kent

My correspondent Keith C. Lewis mentioned (*in litt.*) his sighting of a female of this butterfly on 6th July last at the edge of Chalk Wood in the above district; he was able to watch it ovipositing on honeysuckle. Had it been (say) 1947, there would have been nothing remarkable in this, for in that year it was seen in scores in the neighbouring Joydens Wood by D.F. Owen (Chalmers-Hunt, 1960, *The Butterflies and Moths of Kent, Ent. Rec.* 72, Supplement: (57)). I do not know what is the present status of *camilla* in north-west Kent, but 1995 is half-a-century on and it seems unlikely that the butterfly's large increase during the 1940s has held steady ever since, at least in that part of the county where it was previously very rare or absent. Mr Lewis added that it was the first time he had seen the White Admiral in his many visits to the locality.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

The Waved Black, *Parascotia fuliginaria* L. (Lep.: Noctuidae) in Lancashire

I was pleased to note a single specimen of the Waved Black moth in my garden m.v. light-trap on 5.viii.1995. The only place I have seen this moth before was at Wixall Moss, Shropshire on 12.viii.1979. I am not aware of any other Lancashire records, and other records of its occurrence in more northern counties would suggest the species is a migrant here.

— J.G. WHITSIDE, Dover Farm, Blackburn Old Road, Hoghton, Preston, Lancashire.

Unusual variation in the Light Emerald, *Campaea margaritata* L. (Lep.: Geometridae)

On the night of 17th August last a fresh and rather small male of what appeared to be the above moth was boxed from a lighted window of my study, the first I have encountered in this way (I have not had the species at m.v. light). Examining it while it was still alive, I was struck by the colour of the fringes — a pronounced coral-red throughout; but thinking it must be normal, though previously overlooked by me, I duly released the moth. However, the point seemed worth following up, especially when a large female from this district that I happened to have kept was found to have fringes of the expected whitish tint. Barrett (*Lep. Brit. Isl.* 7: 112), whose accuracy and attention to detail is well known, says that, apart from a chestnut spot at tip of forewing, the cilia are silky white; and mentions no sexual difference in this feature. I now regret not having kept the red-fringed male — was it an aberration, or even a different species from *margaritata*? I would be very interested if some lepidopterist reader can throw light on the matter.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.